



WHO WILL BE IN HEAVEN?

For discussion: What has been your biggest obstacle to spiritual growth?

After the final judgment, believers will enter into the full enjoyment of life in the presence of God forever. Jesus will say to us, “Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world” (Matthew 25:34). We will enter a kingdom where “No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will serve him” (Revelation 22:3).

- In your Christian life to this point, have you spent much time thinking about life in the new heavens and new earth? Do you think there is a very strong longing for this in your heart? If it has not been strong, why do you think this has been the case?
- Are you convinced that the new creation is a place where we will exist with physical bodies that are made perfect? Why? Why do you think it is necessary to insist that heaven is an actual place?
- In light of Pastor Jeff’s sermon, what misconceptions have you had about heaven? How is God’s actual plan for us better? That is, in what ways are you *more* excited about entering the heavenly city? What positive effects on your Christian life would come about because of a stronger longing for the life to come?

Read Revelation 21:3-4 together and close in prayer thanking God for the hope that we have, and asking Him to allow that hope to transform the way we live.

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place[a] of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

Rev. 21:3-4 ESV

“More important than all the physical beauty of the heavenly city, more important than the fellowship we will enjoy eternally with all God’s people from all nations and all periods in history, more important than our freedom from pain and sorrow and physical suffering... more important by far than any of these will be the fact that we will be in the presence of God and enjoying unhindered fellowship with Him.” Wayne Grudem, Systematic Theology